



St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council
49½ Court Street
Canton, New York 13617-1169
Phone: (315) 379-2292 Fax: (315) 379-2252
E-mail: Planning@stlawco.org
Web Site: <http://www.stlawco.org/Planning/EMC.htm>

MEETING MINUTES
October 21, 2020 6:00 PM
Via ZOOM

Action items in bold italics / Motions underlined.

1. **Call to Order:** Tenbusch called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. **Roll Call, Determination of Quorum**
Members present: Catherine Bennett, *Chair*; Don O'Shea, *Vice Chair*; Aaron Barrigar; Ryan Burkum; Richard Marshall; Sue Rau; Tiernan Smith; Rod Tozzi; Brian Washburn.
Members absent: David Barnes; Joseph Brant; Jen Berbrich; Lance Rudiger; Nicole Terminelli, *BOL Liaison*; Pat Whalen, *Secretary*.
Guest(s): Emily Sheridan, DEC.
Staff: John Tenbusch; Dakota Casserly.
3. **Acceptance of Order of Business, Items for New Business, Items for Unfinished Business**
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the June, August 2020 EMC Meetings:** The meeting minutes were unanimously approved (Rau/Smith).
5. **Hearings, Comments from the Public:** None, no speaker for this meeting.
6. **Report by the Representative of the Board of Legislators (Nicole Terminelli):** None.
7. **Reports by EMC Members on Conversations with County Legislators:** None.
8. **Report of the Committees** Discussion lead by Tenbusch for all committees.
 - a. **Executive:** No report.
 - b. **Conservation of Resources Committee (CRC):** **See attached.**
 - The CRC will pare down priorities, and focus on plastics and climate change. They would like to publicize reusable table ware and people using them in public. A press release will be used to invite the public to consider reusable plastics as gifts and promote local businesses that sell them.
 - Sheridan said that reusable bags make great gift bags.
 - Household Hazardous Waste collection day: some EMC members were there, ~240 cars, and 8 large trash bags of prescription drugs were collected.
 - O'Shea asked what they do with prescription drugs, Tenbusch replied that they are burned at police incinerator in Oswego.
 - Climate change: Speaker options for EMC, Smith could present on shoreline resilience plan on St. Regis Mohawk Tribe lands and on Mohawk attitudes towards eating local fish.
 - Projects for 2021: Adopt a tree program with local scout troop or a tree

planting project.

- Next week is 50 year anniversary of EMC, a plan is in worked on for recognition.

c. Environment and the Economy Committee (E+E): See attached.

- No meeting in September.
- Monday (October 19, 2020) meeting: Tozzi, Smith, and Tenbusch.
- Fish bypass project in Madrid: Lee Harper proposed talking with a colleague about the project and could be speaker for Nov EMC meeting.
 - Additional November speaker options: DEC staff, or Kevin Acres (BOL), or Bob Washo (Town of Canton Board), or Andrea Smith (Ogdensburg Planning Dept. Director)
- Smith talked about catching salmon in Oswegatchie River in Ogdensburg, below the dam, and confirmed that there are fish bypasses upriver near Eel Weir State Park and in Heuvelton.
 - Tozzi asked for fish ladder vs. bypass clarification.
 - Washburn said the head of the Ogdensburg dam is too big for bypass. Smith thinks there is room for a ladder because dam size is insignificant for this type of infrastructure.
 - a. Tozzi responded with western river examples of fish ladders placed in middle of dam.
 - Smith asked when the damn is up for relicensing with FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) and he is going to check.
 - a. Tenbusch responded that some local dams recently went through the FERC process.
 - Ownership of this dam is unclear, Washburn thinks it may be Boralex.
 - a. *Sheridan will check with her colleague and report back*

d. Invasive Species Committee (ISC) See attached.

- September meeting: Tenbusch, Rau, and O'Shea.
 - Their meeting focused on milfoil and parsnip.
- October meeting: O'Shea, Tenbusch, Rau, and Barrigar.
 - O'Shea reminds Tenbusch that he needs to send milfoil and parsnip related info to EMC.
 - Barrigar and Tenbusch presented to the BOL about EAB and task force. The NYS Legislature is proposing help to homeowners to d
 - Milfoil update: The Black Lake Association may produce report on their actions. Also, DEC and NYS Parks and Recreation may produce a report on Black Lake milfoil status.
- There are a couple future speaker options from this committee, an EPA representative on Arconic dredging operation.
 - Burkum suggested the owner of Mack Maple Supply, for next year after sugaring season.

e. Watershed Management Committee (WMC): See attached.

- September meeting: None
- October meeting: Washburn and Tenbusch.
 - They discussed the St. Lawrence River Watershed Project (SLRWP) meeting. Washburn provided a thirteen page document to Project organizers. Tenbusch provided a Watertown Daily Times article about Black River progress.
 - https://www.nny360.com/communitynews/agriculture/revitalization-plan-for-st-lawrence-river-watershed-nearing-completion/article_21399c65-d9da-5180-baed-800f215aded7.html
 - Six EMC members attended the SLRWP meeting.

9. Report of the Staff

- Casserly talked about Enterprise GIS implementation at the County level, and the overall strategy to make GIS collaboration easier across all departments. The Planning Office staff continues to assist Public Health daily to produce updated COVID maps.
- Casserly said that the Planning Office is under contract with the Town and Village of Hammond to review and update their land use regulations.
 - Washburn made note to check on the County's shoreline resiliency plan.
- Tenbusch talked about Census status and how the Planning Office was promoting in its final days. The count deadline was moved several times, October 15 was last day by order of Supreme Court.
- Tenbusch said that the Fair Housing Taskforce workshop (Sept. 24th) went ahead and forty attended, presenters were Sally Santangelo, Exec. Director of CNY Fair Housing and Joe Maslak, staff attorney with Legal Services of Central NY.
- Tenbusch talked about a message from Pat Whalen, there is a memorial plaque at the Massena Central School for Sue Rau's husband (Andy). A tentative dedication date is in the works for November.
 - Rau acknowledged Pat Whalen and the work that was done on this.

10. Unfinished Business: None

11. New Business: None

12. Announcements:

- a. Sheridan talked about the St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management's (SLELO PRISM) fall newsletter and it mentions Fort De La Presentation and its invasive species management strategy, see link: <https://www.sleloinvasives.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2020-Fall-Newsletter-1.pdf>.
- b. Also, she said the DEC is hosting public comment on greenhouse gas regulations in order to implement the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), see link <https://www.dec.ny.gov/press/121141.html>.
- c. Great Lakes Action Agenda, Sheridan works with this organization, is looking for presenters for Great Lakes stakeholders' meeting, contact her if interested. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is hosting a Great Lakes climate and water webinar November 11, use link to register:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2389227082686998030>.

- d. O'Shea asked about Fort De La Presentation meeting.
 - o Sheridan responded that they are also taking action on shoreline resiliency and is working with a board member, Tim Cryderman, on options.
- 13. Message to Board of Legislators**
 - a. Rau said EMC reusable plastics promotion be passed on to the BOL.
- 14. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned by consensus at 7:00 pm.

Minutes drafted by Dakota Casserly